

**State Board of Education Meeting Audio - Part 1**  
**Opening, Call to Order, Roll Call, Approval of Agenda, Approval of Minutes,**  
**Formal Public Comment**

Meeting called to order at 1:00 p.m. The following members of the State Board were present: Teri Quinn Gray, President; Jorge L. Melendez, Vice President; Nina Lou Bunting; Gregory B. Coverdale, Jr.; G. Patrick Heffernan; and Terry M. Whittaker. Secretary of Education Mark Murphy was present to serve as the Executive Secretary for the State Board and the Board's Executive Director, Donna Johnson, was also present.

Attached is the sign in sheet of attendees for the Board meeting. The agenda was approved as distributed. The motion was made by Mr. Melendez and seconded by Dr. Whittaker. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

Minutes from the work session of June 18, 2015 were distributed prior to the meeting. A motion was made by Mr. Melendez to approve the minutes of the work session as presented. The motion was seconded by Dr. Whittaker and carried by roll call vote (Yes – Mr. Heffernan, Mr. Melendez, Dr. Whittaker, Dr. Gray. Abstain – Mrs. Bunting, Mr. Coverdale).

Minutes from the regular meeting of June 18, 2015 were distributed prior to the meeting. A motion was made by Dr. Whittaker to approve the minutes of the regular meeting as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Melendez and carried by roll call vote (Yes – Mr. Heffernan, Mr. Melendez, Dr. Whittaker, Dr. Gray. Abstain – Mrs. Bunting, Mr. Coverdale).

Three individuals signed up to address the Board during public comment. Kevin Ohlandt, a parent spoke on special education issues. He noted that districts do not implement IEPs as they are mandated by federal law and students are not receiving proper services. He commented on his FOIA request to the Department concerning Smarter Balanced and stated that the Governor just vetoed the testing opt out legislation.

Sabine Neal stated she was a parent and addressed the State Board on special education. She explained the personal issues she has been dealing with in getting the proper services for her son at Academy of Dover.

Mike Matthews, a teacher in the Red Clay School District, commented on priority schools and how the funding that was projected in May for the schools to receive has been decreased. He noted that the schools were anticipating receiving those funds and asked that the Department be held accountable for the change in funding.

**State Board of Education Meeting Audio - Part 2**  
**Election of Vice President for 2015-2016 School Year, Committee Reports from State**  
**Board Members, Statewide Review of Educational Opportunities, Legislative Update**

Board members elected Jorge Melendez to serve as Vice President for the 2015-2016 school year.

Board members highlighted their monthly activities. President Gray formally introduced Nina Lou Bunting, the Board's newest member. Mrs. Bunting who was nominated by the

Governor and confirmed by the Senate is a past educator, State Teacher of the Year and for the past 12 years has served as a member of the Indian River School District Board.

There was a discussion on the Governor's veto of House Bill 50 with members of the State Board expressing their support for the Governor's veto.

Ms. Johnson provided the Board with a summary of her activities and also noted the items that were posted for the Board and the public to read posted under her report on the agenda. She announced that the State Board has scheduled a workshop on student data privacy for August 3<sup>rd</sup>. Panel members will represent DTI, the Deputy Attorney General's Office and the evening's speaker is from the National Association of State Boards of Education.

### **State Board of Education Meeting Audio - Part 3 Secretary's Report**

Secretary Murphy provided his monthly report. He stated that the U.S. Department of Education has approved the Department's ESEA Waiver and that the U.S. Senate would be voting today to update the Elementary and Secondary Education Act.

Mr. Murphy noted that Delaware students were visiting China this summer and other students were at St. Andrew's School attending college prep courses while other students were attend the Governor's School for Excellence.

Dr. Gray requested that Secretary Murphy provide the State Board with an update on the Red Clay priority schools. He noted that the funding of approximately \$1M per school has not changed and indicating that schools and local districts should also be seeking addition funding through grants.

### **State Board of Education Meeting Audio - Part 4 Educators as Catalyst - Showcase of Innovation**

The Showcase of Innovation presentation for the month featured the theme Educators as Catalyst. Members of the BRINC consortium were present to provide the Board with an update. The BRINC consortium is committed to creating and supporting personalized learning environments for all students. Presenters were Lori Duerr from the Colonial School District, Susan Bunting from the Indian River School District and Steve Mancini from the New Castle County Vo-Tech School District. The consortium currently consists of seven districts and representatives from all the districts in the consortium were present and responded to questions from the Board. The consortium has formed a Strategic Planning Team, established an Executive Board and instituted Bylaws in its first two years. This year's focus is on building district capacity and professional development as well as security eSchool and Schoology integration. Concerns were expressed on the need for increased bandwidth.

The Board recessed from 2:41 p.m. to 2:51 p.m.

**State Board of Education Meeting Audio - Part 5**  
**College Access - Year in Review, Update Year in Review of Assessment Implementation**  
**and Update on ESEA Flexibility Request, Department Regulations**

College Access – Year in Review

Chief Academic Officer Michael Watson and Shana Payne, Director of the Delaware Higher Education Office, provided an update of Delaware's Getting to Zero campaign. Districts receive support through College Application Month, assistance with FAFSA completion and check lists for grades 9 through 12. An update was provided on dual enrollment in the state as well as Advanced Placement access and success. The University of Delaware, Delaware State University, Wilmington College and Delaware Tech have provided a guide to advise students taking the 11<sup>th</sup> grade Smarter Balanced English and Mathematics assessments of scores that will be used for consideration for college level courses. The Board also received information on the Texting Campaign that students and parents can sign up for and receive alerts to stay abreast of what needs to be completed for college applications, financial aid, etc.

Update Year in Review of Assessment Implementation  
And Update on ESEA Flexibility Request

Dr. Penny Schwinn, Associate Secretary of Assessment, Accountability, Performance, and Evaluation and Carolyn Lazar, Director of Assessments, presented an update on the ESEA Flexibility Application and recent conditional approval; provided an overview of the first implementation of the Smarter Balanced Assessment and an overall assessment implementation summary. The presentation included preliminary testing times and feedback from the observations. The Board received some technical updates and it was noted that changes for the upcoming school year includes training via Schoology instead of Blackboard. An update was presented on the Smarter Balanced Educator Survey, school reports and score reports that parents will receive. Test security incidents were presented with cellphone use having the most followed by cheating. There was discussion on when the scores would be released from the Smarter Balanced assessment and it was indicated that data would be released at the State Board's September meeting.

There were no Department regulations on the agenda this month.

**State Board of Education Meeting Audio - Part 6**  
**Charter School Items, Professional Standards Board, Appeals**

Charter Schools

Jen Nagourney from the Charter School Office presented the charter school update and noted the amounts of the performance fund awards for the various charter schools. The timeline for the Family Foundations modification process was highlighted and a report on probation conditions for Academy of Dover, Delaware Design Lab, Family Foundations, Freire Charter School, and Prestige Academy. Ms. Nagourney stated that the Charter School Office is working

with parents of students from Moyer Academy and Reach Academy to ensure enrollment in schools for next year.

#### Professional Standards Board

Chris Kenton, Executive Director for the Professional Standards Board noted that the Board received the application for a new program called the Leadership Certification Program. The application is for the Board to review noting that the Board would be asked to take action on the application at a future meeting.

#### Appeals and Reviews

##### Executive Session

##### R.M v. Smyrna School District Board of Education 2015-02 – For Action

A motion was made by Mr. Heffernan that the State Board go into Executive Session for the purposes of considering this student appeal and the student's pupil file. The motion was seconded by Mr. Melendez and carried unanimously by voice vote. The Board entered into Executive Session at 4:26 p.m.

#### **State Board of Education Meeting Audio - Part 7 Appeals, Information Items, Adjournment**

The Board returned to open session on a motion by Mr. Melendez. The motion was seconded by Mr. Coverdale and carried unanimously by voice vote. The Board returned to open session at 4:46 p.m.

A motion was made by Mr. Coverdale that having read and considered the record of the proceedings below, including the hearing transcripts, any submissions to the hearing officer including exceptions and comments filed by the parties, and the Proposed Order and it appearing the decision is fully supported by the record, free of legal error, and otherwise within the Board's powers, the Proposed Orders of the Hearing Officer be accepted and adopted as the Decision and Order of the State Board of Education. The motion was seconded by Mr. Melendez and carried unanimously by voice vote. Mrs. Bunting abstained. The State Board signed the appropriate Order.

#### Adjournment

There being no further business, a motion was made by Mr. Heffernan to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Bunting and carried unanimously by voice vote.

The meeting adjourned at 4:51 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted;

Mark T. Murphy, Executive Secretary  
and Secretary of Education

**Executive Session  
Appeals and Reviews**

Ilona Kirshon, Deputy Attorney General highlighted the appeal item.

Since school disciplinary matters are confidential the Board entered into Executive Session pursuant to 29 *Del. C.* § 10004(b)(7). The motion was made by Mr. Melendez, seconded by Mr. Hughes and carried unanimously. The Board went into Executive Session at 4:26 p.m. The Board discussed the appeal with Ms. Kirshon. The Board returned to open session at 4:46 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted;

Mark T. Murphy, Executive Secretary  
and Secretary of Education